

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERN 03669 120802Z

ACTION CPR-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 L-03 JUSE-00 OPR-02

A-01 TRSE-00 /034 W

-----114613 132005Z /70

R 120707Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4770

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL ZURICH

UNCLAS BERN 3669

FOR PROTOCOL

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PDIP

SUBJ: HOST COUNTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE

REF: STATE 189095

1. RESPONSES KEYED TO LETTERED SUB-PARAS REFTEL FOLLOW:

A. YES

B. \$400,000 DOLS (ONE MILLION SWISS FRANCS)

VEHICLES ARE NOT REGISTERED AND LICENSE PLATES

NOT ISSUED UNTIL PROOF OF INSURANCE IS FURNISHED TO

CANTONAL (STATE) ROAD TRAFFIC OFFICES. IF INSURANCE

PREMIUMS ARE NOT PROMPTLY PAID, THE VEHICLE'S REGISTRATION

IS CANCELLED AND THE POLICE DEMAND THAT THE LICENSE

PLATES BE RETURNED.

C. NA

D. NA

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E. YES. IN PRACTICE, THE INSURER WOULD REQUEST THE

SWISS POLITICAL DEPT TO REQUEST A WAIVER OF

IMMUNITY. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NOT HEARD OF ANY CASES WHERE

THIS CAME UP, SINCE AUTO LIABILITY CLAIMS ARE ALMOST

INVARIABLY SETTLED OUT OF COURT.

F. NO, UNDER SWISS LAW, INSURANCE COMPANY WOULD HAVE TO

PAY ANY JUDGMENT.

G. NA

H. NO SPECIAL SYSTEM.INSURANCE IS READILY AVAILABLE TO ALL.

I. PREMIUM RATES FOR PRIVATE AUTOS ARE BASED SOLELY
ON AGE AND DRIVING RECORD, WITHOUT REGARD TO NATIONALITY
OR PROFESSION.

J. ABSOLUTELY NO DIFFERENCE IN CONTRACTS

K. NO

L. NA

M. PREVAILING SYSTEM WORKS EXTREMELY WELL

N. THE SWISS GOVT PROVIDES FULL COMPENSATION FOR
ALL DAMAGES SUFFERED CAUSED BY INSURED MOTORISTS.
WHILE THIS LAW WAS ENACTED PRIMARILY TO PROTECT PEOPLE
AGAINST UNINSURED FOREIGN TOURISTS, IT WOULD ALSO
COVER DIPLOMATS WHO WERE EITHER ENTERING OR LEAVING
SWITZERLAND AND WERE, THUS, NOT YET COVERED BY THE MANDATORY
INSURANCE.

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2. FEDERAL POLITICAL DEPT ADVISED EMBASSY THAT U S
MISSION GENEVA PERSONNEL RECEIVE EXACTLY THE SAME
COVERAGE UNDER SWISS LAW.ODELL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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